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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: June 5, 1954

SUBJECT: Consultation Regarding Guatemala

PARTICIPANTS: Ambassador of Colombia Dr. Eduardo Zuleta-Angel
Assistant Secretary of State Henry F. Holland
U.S. Representative on COAS John C. Dreier

COPIES TO: Ambassadors Donnelly and Pawley
ARA - Mr. Woodward, Mr. Pearson, Mr. Wieland, Mr. Herron
AR - Ambassador Dreier, Mr. Jamison
OSA - Mr. Atwood, Mr. Gerberich
MID - Mr. Leddy
Amembassy Bogotá - informally
Amembassy Guatemala - informally

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The Ambassador said that during the course of the next week he would submit to us a memorandum of his thoughts regarding maneuvers which Guatemala might undertake in connection with the proposed meeting as well as of his ideas as to how they might be arrested.

He suggested that we consider calling the meeting under Article 39 of the Charter of American States rather than under Article 6 of the Rio Treaty. He argued that the Article 39 route had as advantages:

1. That only 11 votes would be necessary rather than 14, and

2. That it would not be necessary to satisfy the more rigid requirements of Article 6 of the Rio Treaty.

We discussed this and concluded that for the time being it would be better to continue on the Rio Treaty route, since that is the one we have undertaken. If we find any opposition or any difficulty in obtaining the requisite 14 votes we can always shift to the Article 39 route as a measure of retreat to gain more adherents.

He said that if Uruguay should oppose the use of Montevideo as the meeting place he feels sure that Colombia will be happy to offer Bogotá as a substitute meeting place.

He reviewed the form of resolution which we have drafted, made a suggested addition to clarify that the measures proposed can be taken by the states individually, and with that change approved the form of resolution. He will undertake to obtain formal approval from his government.

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